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Notice of Allowability 10(672.223	Notice of Allowability	Application No. Applicant(s)			
Examiner Art Unit Patricia L Engle 3612		10/672.223	10/672.223 HABACKER NORBERT		
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1313 and MPEP 1303. 1. ☑ This communication is responsive to the application filed on September 26, 2003. 2. ☑ The drawings filed on 26 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner. 4. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). 3. ☐ All bild some* o) ☑ None of the 1. ☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies not received.) 4. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ☐ (Certified copies not received.) 5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF (Certified copies not received.) 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted. 8. ☐ CERTIFIED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be su					
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Ussai on July 15, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In paragraph 0032, line 3, please change "shift" to --shifted--;

In claim 11, line 3, please change "a contact base" to --the retaining pin--;

In claim 18, line 3, please change "a contact base" to --the retaining pin--;

In claim 19, line 4, please change "support" to --supports--.

Please rewrite paragraph 0042 as follows:

(0042) Additional teachings relevant to, and advantageously combinable with the present teachings, are found, e.g., in commonly-owned US Patent Nos. 5,253,91 7; 5,558,389; 5,788,316; 5,816,644; 6,193,301; 6,447,050; 6,454,342; 6,502,891; 6,51 1,118, 6,536,831; 6,578,898, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this application is that the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a convertible vehicle which includes a vehicle body having a passage aperture; a folding top storage compartment lid movably coupled to the vehicle body; a cover plate movably coupled to the storage compartment lid and a safety catch coupled to the cover plate and being

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arranged and constructed to contact and then engage a guiding element on the vehicle body during the folding top opening operation, in combination with the other elements recited.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia L Engle whose telephone number is (703) 306-5777. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, D. Glenn Dayoan can be reached on (703) 308-3102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patricia L Engle

Examiner

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ple July 15, 2004